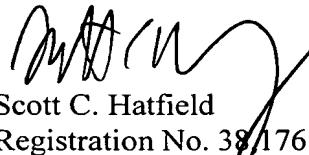


REMARKS

The specification has been amended to claim priority to the identified PCT, European, and U.S. patent applications and to amend the claims to better conform to U.S. practice. More particularly, the claim amendments in this paper have been made with respect to the claims of the claims originally filed in the PCT Application and as published in International Publication No. WO 2004/040697 A1.

Please enter the amendments of this paper prior to calculating the fee in this case. The Applicants respectfully request substantive examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,


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